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PETROLEUM PRODUCTS STORAGE UNDERGROUND SOUTHEAST
BAI THUONG, NORTH VIETNAM
1951N 10525E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS BOMB DAMAGE TO THE BAI THUONG
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS STORAGE UNDERGROUND SOUTHEAST

25X1

2. LOCATION:

THIS INSTALLATION IS LOCATED 4.2 NM SOUTHWEST OF BAI THUONG
AIRFIELD UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND 3.2 NM SOUTHEAST OF BAI THUONG.

3. BACKGROUND:

DUE TO U. S. DESTRUCTION OF THREE PERMANENT PETROLEUM STORAGE
FACILITIES AND PROBABLE ANTICIPATION OF ATTACKS ON THEIR REMAINING
PERMANENT STORAGE FACILITIES, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE IMPLEMENTED A
SYSTEM OF STORING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN CYLINDRICAL TANKS BURIED
IN DISPERSED STORAGE AREAS. THE FACILITY AT BAI THUONG WAS FIRST
OBSERVED UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN EARLY MARCH 1966. AT THAT TIME AT
LEAST FORTY STORAGE TANKS WERE BURIED, TWENTY OTHERS WERE ABOVE-
GROUND AND SIXTEEN EMPTY EXCAVATIONS WERE PREPARED FOR TANK BURIAL.

4. MISSION READOUT:

REVEALS WORK CONTINUING AT THE STORAGE
SITE WITH THE BUNKERED TANK COUNT INCREASED TO ONE-HUNDRED AND TEN.

NGA Review Complete

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AN ADDITIONAL SIXTY TANKS ARE VISIBLE UNBURIED ABOVEGROUND, AND TWELVE EMPTY EXCAVATIONS ARE OBSERVED. THE TANKS AT THIS SITE HAVE A TWELVE METRIC TON CAPACITY EACH, YIELDING A TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 2040 METRIC TONS AT THIS TIME.

POST-STRIKE PHOTOGRAPHY OF  REVEALS 25X1
THE SITE EXTENSIVELY CRATERED. GROUND CLUTTER FROM BOMBING PRECLUDES AN ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF THE DAMAGE TO THE FACILITY; HOWEVER, AT LEAST THIRTY-FIVE BUNKERED TANKS REMAIN COUNTABLE AND APPARENTLY UNDAMAGED, AND TWENTY-FIVE TANKS ARE UNCOVERED IN OPEN EXCAVATIONS. FRESH TRACKAGE AND THE OBVIOUS DELIBERATE UNCOVERING OF BUNKERED TANKS PERHAPS INDICATES AN ATTEMPT TO RECLAIM POL AND/OR STORAGE TANKS.



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